



## Century Farm Applications

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CENTURY FARM APPLICATION

Name of Centennial Farm owner Reno Bordwell  
Name(s) to appear on certificate Reno & Ruby Bordwell  
Address RR 9085 - Spirit Lake, Iowa 51360  
Address of farm, if different from above \_\_\_\_\_

Section 26 Township Minnesota County Jackson

Number of acres in the farm at present 132

Date of original purchase by member of your family 1867

Legal description of the land (from deed, abstract, tax statement)

5 1/2 NW 1/2 + Lot 2

PROOF OF 100 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS FAMILY OWNERSHIP

NAME	DATES (YEARS) OF OWNERSHIP	BLOOD RELATIONSHIP TO NEXT OWNER
<u>Lucius Bordwell</u> (owner in 1876 or B4)	from <u>1867</u> to <u>1899</u>	<u>Father</u>
<u>George Bordwell</u> next owner	from <u>1899</u> to <u>1935</u>	<u>Father</u>
<u>Reno Bordwell</u> next owner	from <u>1935</u> to <u>present</u>	
next owner	from      to	
next owner	from      to	
next owner	from      to	
next owner	from      to	
next owner	from      to	

The above evidence of continuous family ownership of this farm since 1876 is taken from one or more of the following records. DO NOT SEND IN RECORDS, just indicate by check marks those which apply.

Abstract of Title <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Court file in Registration
Land Patent <input type="checkbox"/>	Proceedings <input type="checkbox"/>
Original Deed <input type="checkbox"/>	Other (please explain _____)
County Land Record <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Original land grant Signed</u> <u>by U.S. Grant (signed in 1872)</u>

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the information listed above is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief:

David Bordwell  
(Witness sign here)

Reno Bordwell  
(Signature of present owner)

Date June 28, 1976

See reverse side for additional information.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Information you may be able to add to this form, while not essential to Century Farm certification, will be most valuable to future historians. The questions below are offered only as a guide, so please feel free to add any other data, especially family or pioneer stories concerning the farm and the area around it.

1. From whom was the farm purchased? Land grant
2. How many acres were in the original parcel? 132
3. What was the cost of land per acre? does not apply
4. Where was the first owner born? New York State
5. Where did he live prior to moving onto the farm? Wisc.
6. Was this a homestead? yes
7. Did the first owner farm the land? yes
8. Did he engage in any trades or occupations other than farming?  
Trap
9. Is the original home, or any portion of it or other original buildings, still standing or in use? No
10. When was the present home built? 1902
11. What are the farm's major crops or products? Corn, soybeans
12. Local newspaper to be notified of Century Farm designation:  
Jackson County Pilot - Jackson, Minnesota

Related information: (please feel free to use additional sheets of paper)

(Cont.)

In the year 1900, Fred sold his 80 acres to his brother, Carl. The following year, Carl sold the entire 160 acres to his son, William. Carl passed away in 1909. Fred lived near Jeffers, Minn. until his death in 1911.

William and his family resided on the farm until his death in 1926.

In 1936, 13.34 acres of the farm were deeded to William's 3 children.

The farm then remained in a living will until the 1973 death of William's second wife, Mrs. Alvina Bretzman Kueger. (She had remarried)

We purchased the farm in 1974 at public auction.

(The name Bretzman is spelled Bretzmann in the early days.)



CENTURY FARM APPLICATION

Name of Centennial Farm owner Peder & Helma Hammer  
Name(s) to appear on certificate Peder & Helma Hammer  
Address Windom, Minnesota  
Address of farm, if different from above \_\_\_\_\_

Section 26 Township Christiania County Jackson  
Number of acres in the farm at present 194

Date of original purchase by member of your family Jan 16 - 1958  
Legal description of the land (from deed, abstract, tax statement)

SE 1/4 NW 1/4 S 1/2 NE 1/4 NW 1/4 N 1/2 SE 1/4 N 1/2 NE 1/4 SW 1/4 S 1/2 NE 1/4  
26-104-35

PROOF OF 100 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS FAMILY OWNERSHIP

NAME	DATES (YEARS) OF OWNERSHIP	BLOOD RELATIONSHIP TO NEXT OWNER
<u>Ole Severson</u>	<u>from Homestead Claim</u>	
<u>next owner</u>	<u>from 1882 to time of his death</u>	<u>2 sons - Sivert O. Severson &amp; John Severson owned it.</u>
<u>S.O. Severson</u>	<u>from 1920 to 1933</u>	<u>Son of Ole Severson</u>
<u>next owner</u>	<u>from 1933 to 1957</u>	<u>Son of Ole Severson</u>
<u>Peder Hammer</u>	<u>from 1958 to Present time</u>	<u>S.O. Severson was a</u>
<u>next owner</u>	<u>from to</u>	<u>Cousin of Peder Hammer's mother</u>
<u>next owner</u>	<u>from to</u>	<u>who lived with us</u>
<u>next owner</u>		

The above evidence of continuous family ownership of this farm since 1876 is taken from one or more of the following records. DO NOT SEND IN RECORDS, just indicate by check marks those which apply.

Abstract of Title (X) Court file in Registration  
Land Patent ( ) Proceedings ( )  
Original Deed ( ) Other (please explain)  
County Land Record ( ) Jackson County History Book

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the information listed above is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief:

David W. Johnson  
(Witness sign here)

Peder Hammer  
(Signature of present owner)

Date 6-30-76

See reverse side for additional information.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Information you may be able to add to this form, while not essential to Century Farm certification, will be most valuable to future historians. The questions below are offered only as a guide, so please feel free to add any other data, especially family or pioneer stories concerning the farm and the area around it.

1. From whom was the farm purchased? S.O. Harstad gave us 1st chance to buy it after his death.
2. How many acres were in the original parcel? 194
3. What was the cost of land per acre? \$100 per acre
4. Where was the first owner born? Norway - July 22, 1831 - spent 1st 36 yrs. of his life there.
5. Where did he live prior to moving onto the farm? Minneapolis, Minn.
6. Was this a homestead? yes
7. Did the first owner farm the land? yes
8. Did he engage in any trades or occupations other than farming?  
Worked winters building piers and booms - farmed in summer
9. Is the original home, or any portion of it or other original buildings, still standing or in use? Barn
10. When was the present home built? 1967
11. What are the farm's major crops or products? Corn & beans
12. Local newspaper to be notified of Century Farm designation:

Related information: (please feel free to use additional sheets of paper)

It took 9 days on the road from Minneapolis to Jackson County, with his yoke of oxen, when he came to take a Homestead. Lived in a dugout home, until they built a home. A little pump in the grove still designates where the dugout was.



CENTURY FARM APPLICATION

Name of Centennial Farm owner Mr Martin Meister  
Name(s) to appear on certificate Mr Martin Meister  
Address Lakefield Minn.  
Address of farm, if different from above \_\_\_\_\_

Section 20 Township Rost County Jackson  
Number of acres in the farm at present 240  
Date of original purchase by member of your family 1937  
Legal description of the land (from deed, abstract, tax statement)  
North East 1/4 20-102-37. 160a.

PROOF OF 100 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS FAMILY OWNERSHIP

NAME	DATES (YEARS) OF OWNERSHIP <i>Patent 1879</i>	BLOOD RELATIONSHIP TO NEXT OWNER
<u>Franz Meister</u> (owner in 1876 or B4)	from 1879 to 1907	<u>Grandfather</u>
<u>August Meister</u> next owner	from 1907 to 1937	<u>Father</u>
<u>Martin Meister</u> next owner	from 1937 to —	<u>owner</u>
next owner	from to	
next owner	from to	
next owner	from to	
next owner	from to	
next owner	from to	

The above evidence of continuous family ownership of this farm since 1876 is taken from one or more of the following records. DO NOT SEND IN RECORDS, just indicate by check marks those which apply.

Abstract of Title ( ) Court file in Registration  
Land Patent ( ) Proceedings ( )  
Original Deed ( ) Other (please explain \_\_\_\_\_)  
County Land Record (X) \_\_\_\_\_

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the information listed above is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief:

Velin Christians  
(Witness sign here)

Martin Meister  
(Signature of present owner)

Date June 23, 1976

See reverse side for additional information.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Information you may be able to add to this form, while not essential to Century Farm certification, will be most valuable to future historians. The questions below are offered only as a guide, so please feel free to add any other data, especially family or pioneer stories concerning the farm and the area around it.

1. From whom was the farm purchased? \_\_\_\_\_
2. How many acres were in the original parcel? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What was the cost of land per acre? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Where was the first owner born? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Where did he live prior to moving onto the farm? \_\_\_\_\_
6. Was this a homestead? yes \_\_\_\_\_
7. Did the first owner farm the land? yes \_\_\_\_\_
8. Did he engage in any trades or occupations other than farming?  
No \_\_\_\_\_
9. Is the original home, or any portion of it or other original buildings, still standing or in use? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. When was the present home built? 1912 \_\_\_\_\_
11. What are the farm's major crops or products? Corn beans + oats
12. Local newspaper to be notified of Century Farm designation:  
Lakefield Standard Lakefield Minn.

Related information: (please feel free to use additional sheets of paper)



CENTURY FARM APPLICATION

Name of Centennial Farm owner Harlow K. Meium

Name(s) to appear on certificate Harlow K. and Helen S. Meium

Address Alpha, Minnesota 56111

Address of farm, if different from above R.R. 1,  
Jackson, Minnesota 56143

Section 2 Township Belmont County Jackson

Number of acres in the farm at present 120 acres

Date of original purchase by member of your family 1876

Legal description of the land (from deed, abstract, tax statement)  
S $\frac{1}{2}$  of NW $\frac{1}{4}$  and NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 2, Township 103N Range 35W

PROOF OF 100 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS FAMILY OWNERSHIP

NAME	DATES (YEARS) OF OWNERSHIP	BLOOD RELATIONSHIP TO NEXT OWNER
State of Minnesota	from 1841 to 1876	
(owner in 1876 or B4)		
Lars Larson Sogge	from 1876 to 1899	father
next owner		
Hafthan L. Sogge	from 1899 to 1947	uncle
next owner		
Harlow K. Meium	from 1947 to 1976	
next owner		
	from to	
next owner		
	from to	
next owner		
	from to	
next owner		

The above evidence of continuous family ownership of this farm since 1876 is taken from one or more of the following records. DO NOT SEND IN RECORDS, just indicate by check marks those which apply.

Abstract of Title (X)	Court file in Registration
Land Patent ( )	Proceedings ( )
Original Deed ( )	Other (please explain)
County Land Record ( )	

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the information listed above is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief:

Carolyn Hampel  
(Witness sign here)

Harlow K. Meium  
(Signature of present owner)

Date June 25, 1976

See reverse side for additional information.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Information you may be able to add to this form, while not essential to Century Farm certification, will be most valuable to future historians. The questions below are offered only as a guide, so please feel free to add any other data, especially family or pioneer stories concerning the farm and the area around it.

1. From whom was the farm purchased? homesteaded by Lars Larson Sogge
2. How many acres were in the original parcel? 120 acres
3. What was the cost of land per acre? sweat, toil, faith & determination
4. Where was the first owner born? Norway
5. Where did he live prior to moving onto the farm? Norway
6. Was this a homestead? yes
7. Did the first owner farm the land? yes
8. Did he engage in any trades or occupations other than farming?  
no
9. Is the original home, or any portion of it or other original buildings, still standing or in use? yes - the original kitchen  
is used as an annex to the hog house
10. When was the present home built? 1898
11. What are the farm's major crops or products? corn - soybeans - alfalfa
12. Local newspaper to be notified of Century Farm designation:  
Jackson County Pilot, Jackson, Minnesota 56143

Related information: (please feel free to use additional sheets of paper)

CENTURY FARM APPLICATION

Name of Centennial Farm owner Peder C. Kilen

Name(s) to appear on certificate Peder C. and Julia Kilen

Address Jackson, Minnesota 56143

Address of farm, if different from above \_\_\_\_\_

Section s 20 & 21 Township 103 County Jackson

Number of acres in the farm at present 219

Date of original purchase by member of your family Homesteaded 1867

Legal description of the land (from deed, abstract, tax statement)

~~The East Half of the Northeast Quarter (E1/2NE1/4) of Section Twenty (20) and the Northwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter (NW1/4SW1/4) and the West Half of the Northwest Quarter (W1/2NW1/4) in Section Number Twenty-one (21), all in Township Number One Hundred Three (103), North, Range number Thirty-five (35), Jackson County, Minnesota~~

PROOF OF 100 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS FAMILY OWNERSHIP

NAME	DATES (YEARS) OF OWNERSHIP	BLOOD RELATIONSHIP TO NEXT OWNER
Erik Rasmussen (changed name to Erik R. Kilen)	from 1867 to 1899	
(owner in 1876 or B4) Johanna Kilen	from 1899 to 1906	Mother
next owner Erick & John Kilen	from 1906 to 1917	Father (Erick Kilen)
next owner Peder C. & Julia Kilen	from 1917 to present	
next owner	from to	
next owner	from to	
next owner	from to	
next owner	from to	

The above evidence of continuous family ownership of this farm since 1876 is taken from one or more of the following records. DO NOT SEND IN RECORDS, just indicate by check marks those which apply.

Abstract of Title ( ☒ ) Court file in Registration  
Land Patent ( ) Proceedings ( )  
Original Deed ( ) Other (please explain \_\_\_\_\_)  
County Land Record ( ☒ )

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the information listed above is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief:

Emily Drakota  
(Witness sign here)

Peder C. Kilen  
(Signature of present owner)

Date June 30, 1976

See reverse side for additional information.



## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Information you may be able to add to this form, while not essential to Century Farm certification, will be most valuable to future historians. The questions below are offered only as a guide, so please feel free to add any other data, especially family or pioneer stories concerning the farm and the area around it.

1. From whom was the farm purchased? Homestead- U. S. Government
2. How many acres were in the original parcel? 119
3. What was the cost of land per acre? Unknown
4. Where was the first owner born? Norway
5. Where did he live prior to moving onto the farm? Norway
6. Was this a homestead? Yes.
7. Did the first owner farm the land? Yes.
8. Did he engage in any trades or occupations other than farming?  
No.
9. Is the original home, or any portion of it or other original buildings, still standing or in use? No
10. When was the present home built? \_\_\_\_\_
11. What are the farm's major crops or products? Corn and beans
12. Local newspaper to be notified of Century Farm designation:  
Jackson County Pilot, Jackson, Minnesota 56143

Related information: (please feel free to use additional sheets of paper)



CENTURY FARM APPLICATION

Name of Centennial Farm owner Ella Lilleberg, Jerome K. Lilleberg,  
Karen Reincke & John O. Lilleberg  
Name(s) to appear on certificate Ella Lilleberg, Jerome K. Lilleberg &  
John O. Lilleberg, Jackson Minn. 56143  
Address Karen Reincke, Brewster, Minn.  
56119

Address of farm, if different from above Route 3 Box 42  
Jackson, Minn.

Section 28 Township Belmont County Jackson

Number of acres in the farm at present 2

Date of original purchase by member of your family March 1, 1876

Legal description of the land (from deed, abstract, tax statement)  
Part of E 1/2 SE 1/4, NW 1/4 SE 1/4 + Part SW 1/4 NE 1/4

PROOF OF 100 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS FAMILY OWNERSHIP

NAME	DATES (YEARS) OF OWNERSHIP	BLOOD RELATIONSHIP TO NEXT OWNER
<u>Ole Lilleberg</u> (owner in 1876 or B4)	from <u>3/1/76</u> to <u>9/9/80</u>	<u>Father</u> <u>Patent</u>
<u>Ole O. Lilleberg Jr.</u> next owner	from <u>9/9/80</u> to <u>4/13/901</u>	<u>Father</u> <u>Deed</u>
<u>John O. Lilleberg</u> next owner	from <u>4/13/901</u> to <u>6/29/901</u>	<u>Don</u> <u>Deed</u>
<u>Ole &amp; Sign Lilleberg</u> next owner	from <u>6/29/901</u> to <u>11/10/905</u>	<u>Father</u> <u>Deed</u>
<u>John O. Lilleberg</u> next owner	from <u>11/10/905</u> to <u>1/4/44</u>	<u>Olive as spouse - (Life Estate)</u>
<u>Arvin C. Lilleberg</u> next owner	from <u>1/4/44</u> to <u>7/6/65</u>	<u>Ella as spouse (Life Estate) +</u> <u>Father</u>
<u>Jerome K. Lilleberg</u> <u>Karen Reincke &amp; John O. Lilleberg</u> next owner	from <u>7/6/65</u> to <u>now</u>	

The above evidence of continuous family ownership of this farm since 1876 is taken from one or more of the following records. DO NOT SEND IN RECORDS, just indicate by check marks those which apply.

Abstract of Title ( ) Court file in Registration  
Land Patent ( ) Proceedings ( )  
Original Deed ( ) Other (please explain \_\_\_\_\_)  
County Land Record (X)

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the information listed above is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief:

Audrey Kimball (Witness sign here)  
Ella C. Lilleberg (Signature of present owner)

Date July 9, 1976

See reverse side for additional information.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Information you may be able to add to this form, while not essential to Century Farm certification, will be most valuable to future historians. The questions below are offered only as a guide, so please feel free to add any other data, especially family or pioneer stories concerning the farm and the area around it.

1. From whom was the farm purchased? USA
2. How many acres were in the original parcel? ?
3. What was the cost of land per acre? ?
4. Where was the first owner born? Norway
5. Where did he live prior to moving onto the farm? Norway
6. Was this a homestead? yes
7. Did the first owner farm the land? yes
8. Did he engage in any trades or occupations other than farming?  
No
9. Is the original home, or any portion of it or other original buildings, still standing or in use? no
10. When was the present home built? 1913
11. What are the farm's major crops or products? Corn, Beans, Livestock
12. Local newspaper to be notified of Century Farm designation:  
Jackson County Pilot

Related information: (please feel free to use additional sheets of paper)



CENTURY FARM APPLICATION

Name of Centennial Farm owner Dilmore Meium  
Name(s) to appear on certificate Dilmore Meium  
Address Route #1, Jackson, Minnesota 56143  
Address of farm, if different from above Route #1, Jackson, Minn.

Section 6 Township 103 (Enterprise) County Jackson  
Number of acres in the farm at present 120 acres  
Date of original purchase by member of your family 11-5-1878 & 3-10-1883

Legal description of the land (from deed, abstract, tax statement)  
The S<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> and the NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> of Section 6, Township 10,  
103 North of Range No. 34 West of the Fifth Principal Meridian.

PROOF OF 100 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS FAMILY OWNERSHIP

(Lived on land 7 yrs.) NAME before obtaining Patent	DATES (YEARS) OF OWNERSHIP	BLOOD RELATIONSHIP TO NEXT OWNER	
<u>E<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> Thomas Olson (Meium)</u>	from <u>11/5/1878</u> to <u>10/10/1917</u>	<u>Father</u>	(Patent)
<u>owner in 1876 or B/L</u>			
<u>SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> Thomas Olson (Meium)</u>	from <u>3/10/1883</u> to <u>10/10/1917</u>	<u>Father</u>	(Patent)
<u>next owner</u>			
<u>E<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> Oliver Meium</u>	from <u>10/10/1917</u> to <u>2/20/46</u>	<u>Father Husband</u>	(Decree)
<u>next owner</u>			
<u>Hannah Meium</u>	from <u>2/20/46</u> to <u>4/28/65</u>	<u>Mother (Life Estate)</u>	(Decree)
<u>next owner</u>			
<u>Dilmore Meium</u>	from <u>4/28/65</u> to <u>date of 6-8-76</u>		(Death Cert. on Hannah Meium)
<u>next owner</u>			
<u>next owner</u>	from to		
<u>next owner</u>	from to		

The above evidence of continuous family ownership of this farm since 1876 is taken from one or more of the following records. DO NOT SEND IN RECORDS, just indicate by check marks those which apply.

Abstract of Title (X) Court file in Registration  
Land Patent (X) Proceedings ( )  
Original Deed (X) Other (please explain \_\_\_\_\_)  
County Land Record (X)

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the information listed above is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief:

Audrey Kimball, Deputy Reg. of Deeds office Dilmore Meium  
(Witness sign here) (Signature of present owner)

Date June 8, 1976

See reverse side for additional information.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Information you may be able to add to this form, while not essential to Century Farm certification, will be most valuable to future historians. The questions below are offered only as a guide, so please feel free to add any other data, especially family or pioneer stories concerning the farm and the area around it.

1. From whom was the farm purchased? United States
2. How many acres were in the original parcel? 120 acres
3. What was the cost of land per acre? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Where was the first owner born? Selbu, Norway
5. Where did he live prior to moving onto the farm? Winnepin Co.
6. Was this a homestead? yes
7. Did the first owner farm the land? yes
8. Did he engage in any trades or occupations other than farming?  
No
9. Is the original home, or any portion of it or other original buildings, still standing or in use? No
10. When was the present home built? About 1890 or earlier
11. What are the farm's major crops or products? Corn, Soybeans & Livestock
12. Local newspaper to be notified of Century Farm designation:  
Jackson County Pilot

Related information: (please feel free to use additional sheets of paper)



My grandfather, Thomas Olson Meisum, with his wife and his aged parents emigrated from Norway in the year 1869, crossing the Atlantic by sailboat. They came directly to Hennepin county Minnesota, and lived for a short time in the vicinity where the town of Champlin now stands, directly north of Minneapolis. In the summer of 1871, Thomas came to the then open prairies of Jackson county for the purpose of staking out a homestead claim. He rode by train to St. James, which was then the end of the railroad, and proceeded from there on foot. The following spring, in 1872, with his parents, wife and infant son (my father Oliver) and in a covered wagon pulled by oxen, he made the final trek to the Enterprise Township <sup>site</sup> which was to be his future home in the New Land, claimed under provision of the Homestead Act of 1862. Since the year 1872 this farm has continued to be the home of 5 generations of the Meisum family.

Pilmour Meisum

OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES

Harlow K. Meium, President and Cashier  
Helen S. Meium, Vice President  
Joyce V. Bracken, Vice President  
Carolyn Hampel, Assistant Cashier  
Bernice Thielhorn, Teller  
Lois Connors, Teller



DIRECTORS

Harlow K. Meium  
Helen S. Meium  
Joyce V. Bracken  
Galen F. Striemer

# Farmers and Merchants State Bank

SINCE 1911

Capital, Surplus and Undivided Profits Over \$140,000

**ALPHA, MINNESOTA 56111**

F. W. STRIEMER (1888 - 1971)  
Founder

August 26, 1976

Ms. Karen Annexstad Humphrey  
Bicentennial Coordinator  
The 76 Minnesota State Fair  
Falcon Heights, Minnesota 55108

Dear Ms. Humphrey:

Thank you very much for your letter congratulating us as a 1976 Minnesota Century Farm Family.

You may be interested to know the following facts which makes ours a unique situation.

There are only two sons in my husband's family. The elder son, Tilmore Meium, owns and lives on the farm which their paternal grandfather homesteaded. The younger son, Harlow Meium, owns and lives on the farm which their maternal grandfather homesteaded.

We plan to attend the program at 10 A.M. at the Heritage Square Entertainment Pavilion on Saturday, September 4.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Harlow K. Meium

CENTURY FARM APPLICATION

Name of Centennial Farm owner Christina H. Brakke, Edith Brakke Nesseth  
Willis J. Brakke  
Name(s) to appear on certificate Christina H. Brakke, Edith Brakke Nesseth  
Windom, Minn.  
Address Willis J. Brakke  
Luverne, Minn.  
Address of farm, if different from above Rt. #4  
Windom, Minn. 56101

Section 32 Township 104 County Jackson

Number of acres in the farm at present 80 acres

Date of original purchase by member of your family June 20, 1876  
(Staked a claim on March 21, 1871)

Legal description of the land (from deed, abstract, tax statement)

E $\frac{1}{2}$  NE $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 32 - 104 - 36

PROOF OF 100 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS FAMILY OWNERSHIP

NAME	DATES (YEARS) OF OWNERSHIP	BLOOD RELATIONSHIP TO NEXT OWNER
John P. Brakke (owner in 1876 or B4)	June 20, 1876 to 8/4/27	Grandfather Patent
Gustav Albert Marius Clara, founder Cornelius	from 8/4/27 to 9/24/27	Father Decree of Dist.
next owner Brakke		
Gustav Brakke	from 9/24/27 to 2/11/47	Husband & Father War Deed
next owner (Life Estate)		
Christina H. Brakke Edith Brakke Nesseth	from 2/11/47 to 1/2/59	Mother & Children Decree of Dist.
next owner Willis J. Brakke		
Christina H. Brakke	from 1/2/59 to 1/2/59	Mother P.C. Deed
next owner		
Edith Brakke Nesseth Willis J. Brakke	from 1/2/59 to 6/28/76	Children With Christina H. Brakke reserving life estate
next owner		
	from to	
next owner		

The above evidence of continuous family ownership of this farm since 1876 is taken from one or more of the following records. DO NOT SEND IN RECORDS, just indicate by check marks those which apply.

Abstract of Title (X) Court file in Registration  
Land Patent ( ) Proceedings ( )  
Original Deed ( ) Other (please explain \_\_\_\_\_)  
County Land Record (X)

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the information listed above is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief:

Mrs John Mohlencamp Jr.  
(Witness sign here)

Christina Brakke  
Edith Brakke Nesseth  
Willis J. Brakke  
(Signature of present owner)

Date July 1, 1976

See reverse side for additional information.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Information you may be able to add to this form, while not essential to Century Farm certification, will be most valuable to future historians. The questions below are offered only as a guide, so please feel free to add any other data, especially family or pioneer stories concerning the farm and the area around it.

1. From whom was the farm purchased? USA
2. How many acres were in the original parcel? E $\frac{1}{2}$  NE $\frac{1}{4}$  80 acres
3. What was the cost of land per acre? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Where was the first owner born? Ringsaker Parish, Hideharker, Norway  
Came to US 1867. Lived in Spring Grove, Mn.
5. Where did he live prior to moving onto the farm? In 1871 on 21st birthday  
staked Homestead Claim on present farm.
6. Was this a homestead? Yes
7. Did the first owner farm the land? Yes
8. Did he engage in any trades or occupations other than farming? In 1889  
John P. Brakke received the appointment as a deputy State Weightmaster and held  
office for 11 years under Governors Merriam, Nelson, Clough and Lind.
9. Is the original home, or any portion of it or other original  
buildings, still standing or in use? 100 year old house used  
as small livestock shed.
10. When was the present home built? 90 years ago, windows, walls & floors.  
Still using original
11. What are the farm's major crops or products? Corn, beans & oats, beef cows
12. Local newspaper to be notified of Century Farm designation:  
Lakefield Standard Lakefield, Minn. 56150  
Cottonwood County Citizen Windom, Minn. 56101

Related information: (please feel free to use additional sheets  
of paper)



## CENTURY FARM APPLICATION

RETURN TO: MN. STATE FAIR  
CENTURY FARMS  
ST. PAUL, MN 55108

Name of Centennial Farm owner Glenn E. Olson

Name(s) to appear on certificate Glenn, Dorothy and Mark Olson

Address G-D Ranch Jackson, Mn. 56143

Address of farm, if different from above \_\_\_\_\_

Section 22 Township Belmont County Jackson

Number of acres in the farm at present 280

Date of original purchase by member of your family 1859

Legal description of the land (from deed, abstract, tax statement)

S.W. 1/4 of the SW 1/4 of Section 22

## PROOF OF 100 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS FAMILY OWNERSHIP

NAME	DATES (YEARS) OF OWNERSHIP	BLOOD RELATIONSHIP TO NEXT OWNER
<u>Ingebret Olson</u> (owner in 1876 or B4)	<u>from 1859 to 1882</u>	<u>Son of Kristi Olson (Came to America in 1850)</u>
<u>Anders Olson</u> next owner	<u>from 1882 to 1907</u>	<u>Son of Ingebret Olson</u>
<u>Beret Olson Johnson</u> next owner	<u>from 1907 to 1907</u>	<u>Wife of Anders Olson</u>
<u>Emmet &amp; Albin Olson</u> next owner	<u>from 1907 to 1908</u>	<u>Sons of Anders &amp; Beret Olson</u>
<u>Emmet Olson</u> next owner	<u>from 1908 to 1947</u>	<u>Emmet &amp; Albin - Sons of Anders</u>
<u>Glenn E. Olson</u> next owner	<u>from 1947 to</u>	<u>Son of Emmet Olson</u>
next owner	from to	

The above evidence of continuous family ownership of this farm since 1876 is taken from one or more of the following records. DO NOT SEND IN RECORDS, just indicate by check marks those which apply.

Abstract of Title ( )  
Land Patent ( )  
Original Deed ( )  
County Land Record (X)

Court file in Registration Proceedings ( )  
Other (please explain \_\_\_\_\_)

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the information listed above is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief:

David W. Johnson Reg. of Deeds  
(Witness sign here)

Glenn E. Olson  
(Signature of present owner)

Date 7/7/76

See reverse side for additional information.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Information you may be able to add to this form, while not essential to Century Farm certification, will be most valuable to future historians. The questions below are offered only as a guide, so please feel free to add any other data, especially family or pioneer stories concerning the farm and the area around it.

1. From whom was the farm purchased? Traded with an Irish settler for a yoke of oxen and a covered wagon.
2. How many acres were in the original parcel? 40 A
3. What was the cost of land per acre? —
4. Where was the first owner born? Norway
5. Where did he live prior to moving onto the farm? Wisconsin & Houston Co.
6. Was this a homestead? Yes
7. Did the first owner farm the land? Yes
8. Did he engage in any trades or occupations other than farming?  
Carpenter and blacksmith
9. Is the original home, or any portion of it or other original buildings, still standing or in use? The original log cabin was moved to Tourist Park in Jackson in 1926. Another log house - built in 1860 - is preserved on the Olson farm.
10. When was the present home built? 1959
11. What are the farm's major crops or products? Beef, corn, hay
12. Local newspaper to be notified of Century Farm designation:  
Jackson County Pilot

Related information: (please feel free to use additional sheets of paper)

Kristi Olson Alabaaten came from Norway in 1850 with her seven sons. Mark Olson, the son of Glenn and Dorothy Olson, present owners, is the great-great-great grandson of Kristi. One of Kristi's sons was killed in the Indian Massacre of 1862. Her grandson, Anders, was severely wounded.

CENTURY FARM APPLICATION

Name of Centennial Farm owner Garfield Paulson & Sons  
Name(s) to appear on certificate Garfield; Garner; & Curtis Paulson  
Address Route 1 Windom, Mn.  
Address of farm, if different from above \_\_\_\_\_

Section 20 Township Kimball County Jackson  
Number of acres in the farm at present 160 Acres  
Date of original purchase by member of your family homesteaded in 1871  
Legal description of the land (from deed, abstract, tax statement)  
S.W. 1/4 of N.E. 1/4 } Sec. 30 (104) 35  
S.E. 1/4 of N.W. 1/4 } (Kimball)

PROOF OF 100 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS FAMILY OWNERSHIP

NAME	DATES (YEARS) OF OWNERSHIP	BLOOD RELATIONSHIP TO NEXT OWNER
John Garberg Paulson (owner in 1876 or B4)	from 1871 to 1921	Father
Fred J. Paulson next owner	from 1921 to 1963	Father & Grand Father
Garfield Paulson & Sons next owner	from 1963 to present time (1976)	
next owner	from to	
next owner	from to	
next owner	from to	
next owner	from to	
next owner	from to	

The above evidence of continuous family ownership of this farm since 1876 is taken from one or more of the following records. DO NOT SEND IN RECORDS, just indicate by check marks those which apply.

Abstract of Title <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Court file in Registration Proceedings ( )
Land Patent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other (please explain _____)
Original Deed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
County Land Record <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the information listed above is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief:

Charles Ingbreton  
(Witness sign here)

Garfield Paulson & Sons  
(Signature of present owner)

Date \_\_\_\_\_

See reverse side for additional information.



## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Information you may be able to add to this form, while not essential to Century Farm certification, will be most valuable to future historians. The questions below are offered only as a guide, so please feel free to add any other data, especially family or pioneer stories concerning the farm and the area around it.

1. From whom was the farm purchased? Homesteaded
2. How many acres were in the original parcel? 180A.
3. What was the cost of land per acre? ?
4. Where was the first owner born? Norway
5. Where did he live prior to moving onto the farm? Goodhue County, Minn.
6. Was this a homestead? Yes
7. Did the first owner farm the land? Yes
8. Did he engage in any trades or occupations other than farming?  
No
9. Is the original home, or any portion of it or other original buildings, still standing or in use? old granary - set on large rocks, full 2" dimension lumber, Sq. nails
10. When was the present home built? Early 1890s
11. What are the farm's major crops or products? Corn, Soy beans
12. Local newspaper to be notified of Century Farm designation:  
Jackson County Pilot

Related information: (please feel free to use additional sheets of paper)

Dugout built and lived in for several years until a log home was built - it was later added to - the newer home being built around part of the log house.

Fred Paulson (father and grandfather of ~~original~~ present owners) was born on this farm as was one of the ~~original~~ present owners - Garfield Paulson - grandson of original owner ~~it~~ has been the home of 5 generations of Paulsons.

John Garber Paulson

CENTURY FARMS  
ST. PAUL, MN 55108

CENTURY FARM APPLICATION

Name of Centennial Farm owners Florence M. Riley, Sally Bertrude Riley, James M. Riley, Thomas D. Riley & Phillip J. Riley  
 Name(s) to appear on certificate Florence M. Riley, Lakefield Minn. 56150, Sally Fairchild, Sirell, Iowa  
 Address James M. Riley, 1924 Severan Drive, Salt Lake City, Utah 84119, Thomas D. Riley, Rt. 3, Worthington, Minn. 56187, Phillip J. Riley, 220 W. Alabama, Houston, Texas 77001, Rt. 1, Round Lake, Minn.  
 Address of farm, if different from above

Section 2 Township Round Lake County Jackson

Number of acres in the farm at present 120 acres

Date of original purchase by member of your family Aug 9, 1879  
July 27, 1888  
 (Lived there since 1874)

Legal description of the land (from deed, abstract, tax statement) N 1/2 and S 1/4 of SE 1/4 Section 2 Town 101 Range 38  
 Receipt for payment dated Aug 9, 1879

PROOF OF 100 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS FAMILY OWNERSHIP

NAME	DATES (YEARS) OF OWNERSHIP	BLOOD RELATIONSHIP TO NEXT OWNER
<u>Matthew Riley</u> (owner in 1876 or B4)	from <u>1872</u> to <u>6/13/52</u>	<u>Brother</u>
<u>Frank P. Riley</u> next owner	from <u>6/13/52</u> to <u>6/13/52</u>	<u>Husband + Father</u>
<u>Florence M. Riley, spouse of Sally Bertrude Riley, James M. Riley</u> next owner	from <u>6/13/52</u> to <u>now</u>	
<u>Thomas D. Riley &amp; Phillip J. Riley</u> next owner	from to	
next owner	from to	
next owner	from to	
next owner	from to	
next owner	from to	
next owner	from to	

The above evidence of continuous family ownership of this farm since 1876 is taken from one or more of the following records. DO NOT SEND IN RECORDS, just indicate by check marks those which apply.

Abstract of Title (X) Court file in Registration  
 Land Patent ( ) Proceedings ( )  
 Original Deed ( ) Other (please explain)  
 County Land Record (X)

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the information listed above is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief:

Audrey Kimball, Deputy Reg. of Deeds (Witness sign here)  
Thomas D. Riley operator and part owner (Signature of present owner)

Date July 2, 1976

See reverse side for additional information.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Information you may be able to add to this form, while not essential to Century Farm certification, will be most valuable to future historians. The questions below are offered only as a guide, so please feel free to add any other data, especially family or pioneer stories concerning the farm and the area around it.

1. From whom was the farm purchased? USA
2. How many acres were in the original parcel? 120 acres
3. What was the cost of land per acre? ? Homestead
4. Where was the first owner born? Canada
5. Where did he live prior to moving onto the farm? Canada
6. Was this a homestead? yes
7. Did the first owner farm the land? yes
8. Did he engage in any trades or occupations other than farming?  
No
9. Is the original home, or any portion of it or other original buildings, still standing or in use? No
10. When was the present home built? No buildings now.
11. What are the farm's major crops or products? Corn, Soybeans, Cattle
12. Local newspaper to be notified of Century Farm designation:  
Worthington Daily Globe, Lakefield Standard

Related information: (please feel free to use additional sheets of paper)



Final Receivers Receipt. No. 5624 Application. No. 8382.

Homestead

Receivers Office Worthington Minn August 9. 1879. Received of Matthew Riley the sum of Three dollars - Cents being the balance of payment required by law for the entry of N<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> SE <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> + SW <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> SE <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> Section 2 in Township 101 of Range 38 Containing 120 acres under Section 2291 of the Revised Statutes of the United States

\$ 3<sup>00</sup>

J. P. Moulton Receiver,

Filed Sept. 16<sup>th</sup> 1879 }  
at 5. O. clock P. M. }

This document marks completion of the 5 yr. residence on the

Thomas Riley  
Route 3  
Worthington, Minn  
Phone 376 - 5938

Homestead - 1874. However Matthew Riley came and planted his first crop in the spring of 1872. That crop and also his 1873 crop were lost in the grasshopper plagues. Each time he left and worked through the winter as a lumberjack to get new seed money. His 1874 crop was good and he was able to live there from then on.

Thomas Riley - grandson & partner in or present time

Book "7" Seeds Page

Lakefield Mn.

Century Farms

St. Paul, Mn.

I will begin this letter by introducing myself - I am Mrs. J. S. Sokolik daughter of Matthew Riley who homesteaded a farm in Round Lake Township in 1872 clear title in 1879.

Matt Riley was born and raised in Ont. Canada near a little town of Exeter - I was asked by my nephew Tom Riley co owner of the homestead and representative of M. Riley to write a few notes as they come to mind about my early memories of the homestead.

They will not be as they took place but as they come to mind. As I remember myself and as told to me by elders - my father was a bachelor until 1887 he married a girl who was born and raised in Iowa near a small town of O'ford. Her name was Hannah E.

O'Connor she had a sister living in Sioux Valley - she came to visit them and was hired to teach in their rural school. She and my father were married in Heron Lake - Nov. 21<sup>st</sup> 1887. To them were born eight children - four

IV. Boys and four girls including a pair of twin girls. He started farming with a yoke of oxen and a walking plow and a scythe. One of my early memories of him was cutting hay with the scythe and piling it up in cocks. - His brother Charles had the place adjoining my father's. Seems they were required to live on the place five years before clear title could be obtained. They built a shanty part of it on each farm one slept in on end and the other in the end on his claim. Through many adversities he could not live there continuously. That is why it took the extra years to get clear title. One of the adversities was the grasshopper plague.

He would have to find employment elsewhere to get money to start again. He helped blaze a trail through the Michigan forest - He helped lay tracks for a railroad line near Arnold's Park Ia - He also worked as a farm hand.

He built a granary putting it up board by board as he had time to work on it.

One portion was partitioned off and used as living quarters. As the family grew more and more of the granary was used to live in.



III In time an addition was put<sup>to it</sup> - two rooms we made one for a bed room one for storage

The upstairs of the premy served as sleeping room for the boys. He build a barn with a hay loft and sheds built around it for the cattle, milk cows in one part, calves in a smaller part and a bigger place for dry stock

The crops as I remember were timothy and red clover - he had a market for the seed - He also had wheat, Flax Early oats and Barley.

Boys of age fourteen would be hired as Herd boys. They would take the cattle out in the morning and herd them all day - they were usually given a horse to ride as some times the cattle would take them far afield No fences so their job was to keep the herd together and put them in the barnyard in the evening.

Water for farm needs and stock was never any problem - the outlet from the Lake meandered from one end of the farm to the other. In the spring the fish would come down to spawn - fishing was very good - Pike, Pickerel, Perch, Bullheads, Carp and Buffalo One time my oldest brother caught a

IV

long string of Bullheads - Skinned and cleaned them and after drying them he hung them up in the smoke house - just when they were cured enough to store a tornado came and took the smoke house and scattered the fish all over the place. Not to be foiled in his attempt to have smoked fish he went out and picked them up washed all the mud and sand off of them and by that time the smoke house was rebuilt. So again he hung the fish up to do a little re-smoking on.

My father went out one morning to start the smoke going and somehow the fire got away from him and burned the S. house down fish and all.

Meat for the summer was usually butchered in early March a neighbor or two would come to help. Water was heated to boiling - a barrel was supported at an angle - and the hogs would be ~~scald~~ scalded until the bristles could be scraped off. The meat was then put in a brine solution for some time until it was thought to be ready for

V  
The smoking - After it was cured it was left hanging in the smoke house - a smoke fire made once in a while to keep it dry and keep flies off of it.

Winter meat was usually a beef butchered around Christmas time. It was kept frozen in what was called the "coldroom" until it was all devoured.

Usually in Feb or March my dad would <sup>bring</sup> home huge cod fish halibut, salted and dried. Which when freshened out and cooked was served with a white sauce made with lots of butter over potatoes that had been cooked in their jackets. Cod fish lasted until Easter.

While on the subject of food will add my father would take a wagon load of wheat to the mill in Lakefield and wait until it was ground and then bring back the flour and bran. 6 A.M. to 9 P.M. ~~day~~

My father used to hunt quail ~~that~~ were quite plentiful - so he had two or three hunting dogs - mother used the by products of the wheat to make bread for them along with meat dripping, some milk



VI  
And table scraps.

Water for laundry was caught in rain barrels - in winter ice was brought up from the creek or snow from the yard melted which was very soft water.

The rain barrels were always used to catch water for grooming.

About this time 1900 my Father thought there should be a school in the neighborhood - He suggested it to the neighbors - the money was raised the school house built and district 117 was brought into existence.

An illness struck the family - three of the children were seriously ill the oldest boy and the twin girls. After a long and painful fight the twins recovered but the boy suffered paralysis - one leg remained paralyzed the rest of his life.

It was only after he was a student at the U. of M. that a doctor at the Student Medical Center told him he had suffered Polio in his childhood. Doctors at that time had no knowledge of the disease.

IV In Feb. of 1901 the third oldest boy died of Typhoid pneumonia - he was a little over nine years old.

Tragedy also struck two neighbor homes - some little girls were playing around the creek and two of them drowned.

The neighbors came to get my father and ask him what to do - But it was too late they could not revive them.

Every male when 21 years of age had to pay a poll tax - This was usually paid by working a certain number of days to repair roads or at least to keep them passable.

The farm was quite stony - the ones that could be handled were put in a wagon and taken to the stone pile - the larger ones were rolled onto a stone boat which was pulled by one horse - The huge rocks had holes drilled in them by my oldest brother (the one who suffered partial paralysis) he used a small stone <sup>chisel</sup> ~~hammer~~ and a heavy hammer.

Then they were blown apart with dynamite by my father.

VIII

- Although partially paralyzed my brother did many things - He would do the fall plowing with a 6 horse team hitched to a gang plow. He helped with the milking. Helped clean the barn. Was the handy man around the farm and buildings - making fences and repairing things that had a way of getting out of working condition.

My father would go to Worthington 15 miles ago to get supplies and his mail. For awhile a Mr. Spefford who had a store about four miles away would bring the mail from Worthington for the neighbor - He would go to Worthington quite often to restock his store. After that the mail would come to Lake Park, Ia. and a man who had a grocery store in Sioux valley would bring the mail for his customers whenever he would go to town for supplies - This store too was four miles away but in a different direction. Later a mail route was established out of Lake Park Ia. It came within a mile and half from the home place. At a later date a R.R. route was established



out of Round Lake then the mail  
came to the end of the ~~lake~~ lane

In conclusion I might add that  
one of the twin girls and I are the  
only two living members of the Matt  
Riley family—

We are over 80 so hope  
you will take this fact into ~~consideration~~  
consideration when trying to rewrite  
or what ever was planned to do with it

Feel free to use any or all parts that  
will be deemed of interest in years  
to come by ~~our~~ successors

Sincerely Mrs. J. J. Elsie Riley Sot <sup>abif</sup>

P.S. The outlet from the lake provided a very  
good swimming hole for us and all the  
neighbors & Suddan. In winter it was  
our skating pond.

(E.R.S.)

~~over~~ over

Could write more but time does  
not permit. Tom said it had to  
be mailed no later than the 10<sup>th</sup>  
E.R.S.

CENTURY FARM APPLICATION

Name of Centennial Farm owner Cyril Rostomily, Loren & Eva Rostomily  
Name(s) to appear on certificate Cyril Rostomily, Loren & Eva Rostomily  
Address Heron Lake, Minnesota  
Address of farm, if different from above \_\_\_\_\_

Section 10 Township La Crosse County Jackson  
Number of acres in the farm at present 160 ~~80~~ acres  
Date of original purchase by member of your family 1871  
Legal description of the land (from deed, abstract, tax statement)  
E 1/2 SW 1/4 10-104-38

PROOF OF 100 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS FAMILY OWNERSHIP

NAME	DATES (YEARS) OF OWNERSHIP	BLOOD RELATIONSHIP TO NEXT OWNER
<u>John Rostomily</u> owner in 1876 or B4	from <u>1871</u> to <u>1896</u>	<u>Father</u>
<u>Stephen Rostomily</u> next owner	from <u>1896</u> to <u>1962</u>	<u>Uncle and Great Uncle</u>
<u>Cyril Rostomily + Loren</u> next owner	from <u>1962</u> to <u>Present</u>	
next owner	from      to	
next owner	from      to	
next owner	from      to	
next owner	from      to	
next owner	from      to	

The above evidence of continuous family ownership of this farm since 1876 is taken from one or more of the following records. DO NOT SEND IN RECORDS, just indicate by check marks those which apply.

Abstract of Title <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Court file in Registration
Land Patent <input type="checkbox"/>	Proceedings <input type="checkbox"/>
Original Deed <input type="checkbox"/>	Other (please explain)
County Land Record <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Church Record Book</u>
	<u>(Sacred Heart)</u>

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the information listed above is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief:

Jake Van Es  
(Witness sign here)

Cyril Rostomily  
Loren Rostomily - Eva Rostomily  
(Signature of present owner)

Date June 24, 1976

See reverse side for additional information.



## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Information you may be able to add to this form, while not essential to Century Farm certification, will be most valuable to future historians. The questions below are offered only as a guide, so please feel free to add any other data, especially family or pioneer stories concerning the farm and the area around it.

1. From whom was the farm purchased? United States of America
2. How many acres were in the original parcel? 80 Acres
3. What was the cost of land per acre? First was a homestead claim
4. Where was the first owner born? Bohemia
5. Where did he live prior to moving onto the farm? Bohemia
6. Was this a homestead? Yes
7. Did the first owner farm the land? Yes
8. Did he engage in any trades or occupations other than farming?  
No
9. Is the original home, or any portion of it or other original buildings, still standing or in use? No
10. When was the present home built? — There is none now
11. What are the farm's major crops or products? Corn and soybeans
12. Local newspaper to be notified of Century Farm designation:  
Heron Lake News - Heron Lake, Minnesota

Related information: (please feel free to use additional sheets of paper)

First home was a sod house put up by John Rostomely in 1871. Later one was built out of lumber. Sons of John and Josie herded a large number of cattle every day from early spring until later fall on the section of land south of the homestead. At that time the grazing ground was not claimed. (continued)

(Continued from Main sheet)

At least two children of John and Josie's were born in Bohemia. The rest numbering to a total of ten were born at this homestead.

The barn was purchased by Richard Rostomily, father of Cyril, in the 1930's and torn down for other use. The house and the granary were torn down in the 1950's. The original grove was taken out in 1964.

CENTURY FARM APPLICATION

Name of Centennial Farm owner Oscar Seim, a/k/a Oscar H. Seim

Name(s) to appear on certificate Oscar Seim

Address Jackson, Minnesota 56143

Address of farm, if different from above Jackson, Minnesota

Section 30 Township Enterprise County Jackson

Number of acres in the farm at present 80

Date of original purchase by member of your family October 10, 1876 (Patent), but was homestead of Seim family since 1870. Oscar's father, Ole Seim, was born on this farm, Legal description of the land (from deed, abstract, tax statement) (July 19, 1870)

The East Half of the Southwest Quarter (E $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ) of Section Number 30, in Township Number 103, North, of Range Number 34, West of the Fifth Principal Meridian, Jackson County, Minnesota.

PROOF OF 100 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS FAMILY OWNERSHIP

NAME	DATES (YEARS) OF OWNERSHIP	BLOOD RELATIONSHIP TO NEXT OWNER
<u>Cecelia Seim</u> (owner in 1876 or B4)	<u>from 1876 to 1899</u>	<u>Mother</u>
<u>Ole Seim</u>	<u>from 1899 to 1939</u>	<u>Father</u>
<u>next owner-John Seim,</u> <u>Clarence Seim, O. A. Seim,</u> <u>Andrew Seim and Oscar Seim</u>	<u>from 1939 to 1946</u>	<u>Brother</u>
<u>next owner</u> <u>Oscar Seim</u>	<u>from 1946 to Present</u>	
<u>next owner</u>	<u>from to</u>	
<u>next owner</u>	<u>from to</u>	
<u>next owner</u>	<u>from to</u>	
<u>next owner</u>	<u>from to</u>	

The above evidence of continuous family ownership of this farm since 1876 is taken from one or more of the following records. DO NOT SEND IN RECORDS, just indicate by check marks those which apply.

Abstract of Title (X)	Court file in Registration
Land Patent ( )	Proceedings ( )
Original Deed ( )	Other (please explain _____)
County Land Record ( )	

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the information listed above is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief:

Sylvia Metli  
(Witness sign here)

Oscar H. Seim  
(Signature of present owner)

Date June 29, 1976

See reverse side for additional information.



## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Information you may be able to add to this form, while not essential to Century Farm certification, will be most valuable to future historians. The questions below are offered only as a guide, so please feel free to add any other data, especially family or pioneer stories concerning the farm and the area around it.

1. From whom was the farm purchased? United States
2. How many acres were in the original parcel? 80 acres
3. What was the cost of land per acre? Unknown
4. Where was the first owner born? Norway
5. Where did he live prior to moving onto the farm? In a dugout on Sec. 14, Des Moines Township, Jackson County, Minnesota.
6. Was this a homestead? Yes
7. Did the first owner farm the land? Yes
8. Did he engage in any trades or occupations other than farming?  
No
9. Is the original home, or any portion of it or other original buildings, still standing or in use? No, just part of an old shed.
10. When was the present home built? 1917
11. What are the farm's major crops or products? Corn, Soy Beans
12. Local newspaper to be notified of Century Farm designation:  
Jackson County Pilot, Jackson, Minnesota

Related information: (please feel free to use additional sheets of paper)

Oscar's grandfather, Ole K. Seim, lived in a dug out, close to the Des Moines River, in Sec. 14, in Des Moines Township. On March 14, 1870, he had been to the farm to get some hay for his oxen, and on his way back, he was caught in a blizzard, just north of the Jackson Depot. The storm was so bad, that he unhooked the oxen from the sled, followed the oxen to a hay stack, and sat down there to rest and went to sleep. Three days later, after the blizzard, they found him frozen to death, by the hay stack. He had put down his whip in the snow, and had taken out his pipe, and that was the way they found him. The oxen had gone on a little farther, and they were found frozen to death, with their yoke on, and had hung themselves on a rail fence. Later on that spring, Oscar's grandmother, Cecelia Seim, moved out to the present farm to live.

CENTURY FARM APPLICATION

Name of Centennial Farm owner Howard M. Sether  
Name(s) to appear on certificate Howard Sether  
Address Jackson, Minn. Rt. 1 Box 157  
Address of farm, if different from above 56143

Section 2 Township Belmont County Jackson  
Number of acres in the farm at present 80

Date of original purchase by member of your family homesteaded in 1869

Legal description of the land (from deed, abstract, tax statement)

N. 1/2 of NW 1/4 Sec. 2 103-35

PROOF OF 100 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS FAMILY OWNERSHIP

NAME	DATES (YEARS) OF OWNERSHIP	BLOOD RELATIONSHIP TO NEXT OWNER
<u>Claus Hanson</u> (owner in 1876 or B4)	<u>Mar. 1</u> from 1876 to 1895	<u>father</u>
<u>Hans C. Sether</u> next owner	from 1895 to 1919	<u>father</u>
<u>Henry M. Sether</u> next owner	from 1919 to 1960	<u>father</u>
<u>Howard M. Sether</u> next owner	from 1960 to	
next owner	from to	
next owner	from to	
next owner	from to	
next owner	from to	

The above evidence of continuous family ownership of this farm since 1876 is taken from one or more of the following records. DO NOT SEND IN RECORDS, just indicate by check marks those which apply.

Abstract of Title ☒ Court file in Registration  
Land Patent ☐ Proceedings ☐  
Original Deed ☐ Other (please explain \_\_\_\_\_)  
County Land Record ☐

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the information listed above is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief:

Harold K. Meun  
(Witness sign here)

Howard M. Sether  
(Signature of present owner)

Date 6-22-76

See reverse side for additional information.



## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Information you may be able to add to this form, while not essential to Century Farm certification, will be most valuable to future historians. The questions below are offered only as a guide, so please feel free to add any other data, especially family or pioneer stories concerning the farm and the area around it.

1. From whom was the farm purchased? \_\_\_\_\_
2. How many acres were in the original parcel? 80
3. What was the cost of land per acre? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Where was the first owner born? Norway
5. Where did he live prior to moving onto the farm? Norway
6. Was this a homestead? yes
7. Did the first owner farm the land? yes
8. Did he engage in any trades or occupations other than farming?  
help build railroad
9. Is the original home, or any portion of it or other original buildings, still standing or in use? no
10. When was the present home built? 1898
11. What are the farm's major crops or products? Corn & soy beans
12. Local newspaper to be notified of Century Farm designation:  
Jackson County Pilot Jackson Minnesota 56143

Related information: (please feel free to use additional sheets of paper)

<sup>Sether</sup>  
Claus Hanson came from Norway and settled and homesteaded on this farm in 1869 but he did not get title to it till 1876

CENTURY FARM APPLICATION

Name of Centennial Farm owner Adrian T. Skrove  
Name(s) to appear on certificate Adrian T. Skrove  
Address Route 1 Jackson, Minn 56143  
Address of farm, if different from above \_\_\_\_\_

Section 2 Township Belmont County Jackson

Number of acres in the farm at present 440 acres

Date of original purchase by member of your family June 12, 1869

Legal description of the land (from deed, abstract, tax statement)

N 1/2 NE 1/4 Sec 2 103 35 80 acres

PROOF OF 100 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS FAMILY OWNERSHIP

NAME	DATES (YEARS) OF OWNERSHIP	BLOOD RELATIONSHIP TO NEXT OWNER
<u>John S. Skrove</u> (owner in 1876 or B4)	<sup>Patent</sup> from <u>3-1-76</u> to <u>10-19-07</u>	<u>Father</u>
<u>John C. &amp; Taulo Skrove</u> next owner	from <u>10-19-07</u> to <u>12-1-33</u>	<u>sons</u>
<u>Taulo John C. Skrove</u> next owner	from <u>12-1-33</u> to <u>4-11-35</u>	<u>brother</u>
<u>Taulo Skrove Heirs</u> next owner	from <u>4-11-35</u> to <u>9-21-37</u>	<u>brother</u>
<u>Alma Skrove</u> next owner	from <u>9-21-37</u> to <u>2-6-46</u>	<u>wife of Taulo</u>
<u>Adrian Skrove</u> next owner	from <u>2-6-46</u> to	<u>son of Taulo</u>
next owner	from to	

The above evidence of continuous family ownership of this farm since 1876 is taken from one or more of the following records. DO NOT SEND IN RECORDS; just indicate by check marks those which apply.

Abstract of Title ( )	Court file in Registration
Land Patent ( )	Proceedings ( )
Original Deed ( )	Other (please explain _____)
County Land Record (✓)	

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the information listed above is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief:

David W. Johnson  
(Witness sign here)

Adrian T. Skrove  
(Signature of present owner)

Date 6-24-76

See reverse side for additional information.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Information you may be able to add to this form, while not essential to Century Farm certification, will be most valuable to future historians. The questions below are offered only as a guide, so please feel free to add any other data, especially family or pioneer stories concerning the farm and the area around it.

1. From whom was the farm purchased? Homestead
2. How many acres were in the original parcel? 80 acres
3. What was the cost of land per acre? Homestead
4. Where was the first owner born? Vardalen, Trondhjem, Norway
5. Where did he live prior to moving onto the farm? Red Wing, Minn
6. Was this a homestead? No - worked a year on his way to homestead
7. Did the first owner farm the land? yes
8. Did he engage in any trades or occupations other than farming?  
No
9. Is the original home, or any portion of it or other original buildings, still standing or in use? No. Made of sod
10. When was the present home built? 1886
11. What are the farm's major crops or products? Corn + Soybeans
12. Local newspaper to be notified of Century Farm designation:  
Jackson County Pilot - Jackson, Minn 56143

Related information: (please feel free to use additional sheets of paper)



Johannes Skrove (1836-1924) and Martha Sether (1847-1887) were married in the winter of 1866 on a farm near Vardalen, Trondhjem, Norway. In the spring of 1867 they came to America and worked on a farm thirty miles west of Red Wing in Goodhue Co.

In the spring of 1869 Pete Elverum, Lars Sagge, and Johannes Skrove walked to Jackson Co. and picked out land for themselves and others. The land office was in Winnebago and there is where they told what land they wanted.

In their party moving west June 1, 1869 were six covered wagons pulled by oxen. Some of the people owned wagons and oxen together. The people walked behind the wagons driving their cattle. At night they camped in a circle or square sleeping some in and some under the wagons.

They arrived in Jackson Co. June 12, 1869. They all camped together on Johannes Skroves land for about a month until they knew where they wanted their dugouts. There were stakes around their land put up by the government. They all worked together and plowed some land for each of the men.

Johannes and Martha then built a dugout on Johannes 80 acres.

## II

For fuel they twisted prairie hay and burned. They also used cow chips. It kept one busy firing.

In the dugout they had the crib hanging over their bed so in the spring the water would run in and at times be up on the legs of their bed.

They used a yolk with two pails to carry water from the spring and when they needed flour Johannes would walk to Markato (90 miles) pulling a sled with some wheat to the ground.

Their barn was a pole barn with prairie grass for a roof. The oxen had such large horns they had to turn their heads sideways to get in. When the barn got full of manure they would move the barn.

In the fall of 1869 there was a state land sale of school land which had timber lots near the De Moines River. Johannes bought a lot for \$30. an acre. He paid 15% down and the rest in 20 years. In the winter he cut timber and hauled logs for a house. In 1870 he built a sod & log house. During that winter Johannes was at the wood lot when a storm came up. He started for home, but the storm was so bad he got lost. He unhitched the oxen. He was almost froze when he tripped over a

### III

furrow plowed for a prairie fire. He followed the furrow until he came to a house. He knocked on the door and fell to the ground.

In the fall of 1872 there was an indian scare and Johannes and Martha buried their valuables and started to walk to Mankato. They found out on the way it was just a scare so returned.

In June 1873 the grasshoppers came. They were 2-2½" long and ate everything but the coarse grass. They stayed 5 years. Every year Johannes planted his crops only to have it eaten up. Johannes had some cattle he could feed the hay to. He could sell a yearling for \$10. A 2 year old for \$20. and a 3 year old for \$30. There was a shipment of food and clothing from Minneapolis to help the poor farmers. Johannes got an old felt hat.

Johannes and Martha bought 80 acres from the St Paul & Sioux City R.R., 80 acres for \$700. The same year they built their house which now still stands. The year being 1886. In 1893 the barn was built that is still in use. They had nine children and in 1887 Martha died at the age of 40.

It might be interesting to note that in one sec. (Sec 2, Belmont) there are 3 homesteads still in the family name from this group that left Red Wing 107 years ago. They are Johannes Skrove, Claus Sether and Lars Logge



CENTURY FARM APPLICATION

Name of Centennial Farm owner BERNARD W. WEBER  
Name(s) to appear on certificate Bernard W. & Geraldine D. Weber  
Address RR#2, LAKEFIELD, MINN. 56150  
Address of farm, if different from above \_\_\_\_\_

Section II Township ROST County JACKSON

Number of acres in the farm at present 160 A

Date of original purchase by member of your family 1872

Legal description of the land (from deed, abstract, tax statement)  
The Northeast Quarter of Section 2, Township One Hundred Two North, Range Thirty-seven West of the Fifth Principal Meridian

PROOF OF 100 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS FAMILY OWNERSHIP

NAME	DATES (YEARS) OF OWNERSHIP	BLOOD RELATIONSHIP TO NEXT OWNER
<u>AUGUST WEBER</u> (owner in 1876 or B4)	from <u>1872</u> to _____	<u>GUSTAVE WEBER-SON</u>
<u>GUSTAVE WEBER</u> next owner	from _____ to <u>1947</u>	<u>WEBER BROS - SON'S</u> (Bernard & Elmer)
<u>WEBER BROS</u> next owner	from <u>1947</u> to <u>1952</u>	<u>BERNARD W. WEBER-BROTHER</u> & Geraldine D. Weber-Wife
next owner	from _____ to _____	
next owner	from _____ to _____	
next owner	from _____ to _____	
next owner	from _____ to _____	
next owner	from _____ to _____	

The above evidence of continuous family ownership of this farm since 1876 is taken from one or more of the following records. DO NOT SEND IN RECORDS, just indicate by check marks those which apply.

Abstract of Title ( ) Court file in Registration  
Land Patent ( ) Proceedings ( )  
Original Deed (x) Other (please explain \_\_\_\_\_)  
County Land Record (x)

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the information listed above is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief:

Bernard W. Weber (Witness sign here) Bernard W. Weber (Signature of present owner)

Date June 21, 1976

See reverse side for additional information.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Information you may be able to add to this form, while not essential to Century Farm certification, will be most valuable to future historians. The questions below are offered only as a guide, so please feel free to add any other data, especially family or pioneer stories concerning the farm and the area around it.

1. From whom was the farm purchased? Homesteaded 1872
2. How many acres were in the original parcel? 160 A
3. What was the cost of land per acre? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Where was the first owner born? Germany
5. Where did he live prior to moving onto the farm? Ill & Wisc.
6. Was this a homestead? yes
7. Did the first owner farm the land? yes
8. Did he engage in any trades or occupations other than farming?  
No
9. Is the original home, or any portion of it or other original buildings, still standing or in use? yes, Part of the House.
10. When was the present home built? In about the 1890's
11. What are the farm's major crops or products? Corn & Beans
12. Local newspaper to be notified of Century Farm designation:  
Lakefield Standard, Lakefield, Minn 56150

Related information: (please feel free to use additional sheets of paper)

The Heber family settled on the edge of Goose Lake which has long since been drained by dredge ditches and now is farmed. They suffered many hardships such as grasshopper plague and the wild geese, ducks, deer, etc ate their crops.

CENTURY FARM APPLICATION

Name of Centennial Farm owner Charles A. Winzer  
Name(s) to appear on certificate \_\_\_\_\_  
Address Heron Lake, Minn. 56137  
Address of farm, if different from above \_\_\_\_\_

Section 26 Township Weimer County Jackson

Number of acres in the farm at present 145

Date of original purchase by member of your family FILED FOR HOMESTEAD IN 1869

Legal description of the land (from deed, abstract, tax statement)

NE 1/4 OF SE 1/4 OF SEC 26 AND LOTS 3, 4 AND 5  
OF SEC. 26 TWP. 104 RANGE 37

PROOF OF 100 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS FAMILY OWNERSHIP

NAME	DATES (YEARS) OF OWNERSHIP	BLOOD RELATIONSHIP TO NEXT OWNER
<b>Charles Winzer</b>	from 1880 to 1910	Father
(owner in 1876 or B4) <b>Ernest Winzer</b>	from 1910 to 1936	Father
next owner <b>Charles A. Winzer</b>	from 1936 to 1975	Father
next owner <b>Jean Hovland</b> ON CONTRACT	from 1975 to PRESENT	
next owner	from to	
next owner	from to	
next owner	from to	
next owner	from to	

The above evidence of continuous family ownership of this farm since 1876 is taken from one or more of the following records. DO NOT SEND IN RECORDS, just indicate by check marks those which apply.

Abstract of Title ( ) Court file in Registration  
Land Patent ( ) Proceedings ( )  
Original Deed ( ) Other (please explain \_\_\_\_\_)  
County Land Record (X)

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the information listed above is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief:

David W. Johnson - Reg. of Deeds  
(Witness sign here)

Charles A. Winzer  
(Signature of present owner)

Date June 28, 1976

See reverse side for additional information.



## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Information you may be able to add to this form, while not essential to Century Farm certification, will be most valuable to future historians. The questions below are offered only as a guide, so please feel free to add any other data, especially family or pioneer stories concerning the farm and the area around it.

1. From whom was the farm purchased? U. S. Govt. - Homestead
2. How many acres were in the original parcel? 145
3. What was the cost of land per acre? Filing fee
4. Where was the first owner born? Weimar, Germany
5. Where did he live prior to moving onto the farm? Chicago, Ill.
6. Was this a homestead? Yes
7. Did the first owner farm the land? Yes
8. Did he engage in any trades or occupations other than farming?  
He may have done some carpenter work and cabinet making
9. Is the original home, or any portion of it or other original buildings, still standing or in use? Yes. It is presently being used as a one car garage.
10. When was the present home built? 1920
11. What are the farm's major crops or products? Corn And Certified Soybean Seed
12. Local newspaper to be notified of Century Farm designation:  
Heron Lake, News, Heron Lake, Minn. 56137. AND WORTHINGTON GLOBE  
WORTHINGTON, MINN. 56187

Related information: (please feel free to use additional sheets of paper)

Charles Winzer homesteaded in the fall of 1869. In the spring of 1870 he brought his wife Ida from Chicago, built a sod dugout where they lived for about five years. In 1875 he purchased some lumber with which he built a story and a half house twelve wide by sixteen feet long. He built a large house about 1884 that burned down on June 14, 1920. The present dwelling was built by Ernest Winzer that same summer.

Ernest Winzer was born on the farm Feb. 22, 1875, Charles Albert Winzer was born on the farm Nov. 20, 1910, Jean Marie (Winzer) Hovland was born at the Heron Lake Hospital on Sept. 26, 1950. Charles Winzer and his direct decendants have lived on and operated this farm for 106 years. Jean is the fourth generation. Jean and her husband Paul Hovland are the present operators. Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Winzer are retired and live in a separate house on the home farm.



# THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

To all to whom these presents shall come, Greeting:

Homestead Certificate No. 1030

APPLICATION 476

REGISTER OF THE LAND OFFICE at

Whereas, there has been deposited in the General Land Office of the United States, a **CERTIFICATE** of the *Jackson Minnesota*, whereby it appears that pursuant to the Act of Congress approved 20th May, 1862, "To secure Homesteads to actual Settlers on the public domain," and the acts supplemental thereto, the claim of *Austin Olson* has been established and duly consummated in conformity to law for the West half of the North West quarter of section twelve in Township one hundred <sup>and</sup> four of Range nineteen, in the district of lands subject to sale at *Jackson Minnesota*, containing eighty Acres

according to the Official Plat of the survey of the said Land returned to the **GENERAL LAND OFFICE** by the **SURVEYOR GENERAL**:

Now know ye, That there is therefore granted by the **UNITED STATES** unto the said *Austin Olson* the tract of Land above described: **To Have and to Hold** the said tract of Land, with the appurtenances thereof, unto the said *Austin Olson* and to his heirs and assigns forever.

In testimony whereof, *J. Ulysses Grant*, President of the United States of America, have caused these Letters to be made Patent, and the **Seal of the General Land Office** to be hereunto affixed.

Given under my hand, at the **CITY OF WASHINGTON**, the *Tenth* day of *October*, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and *seventy*, and of the **INDEPENDENCE OF THE UNITED STATES** the *ninety fifth*

By the President: *U. S. Grant*  
By *J. Parish*, Sec'y.  
*McGranger*, Recorder of the General Land Office.